

ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Sports activities flourished during 1981 common to all post-Olympic year, as promising athletes aspired to compete in the 1984 Summer and Winter Olympics, and seasoned athletes attempted to maintain their class. Now that 1981 is fast becoming history, we congratulate all the sports personalities at this year!

Sports greats

World chess champion Anatoly Karpov, of the Soviet Union, world mid-distance running record holder and 1980 Olympic winner Sebastian Coe of Britain, Wimbledon titlist John McEnroe, of the USA, five-time European swimming champion and world record holder, 1980 Olympic champion Uta Cowenhorst, of the GDR, gymnastics absolute world champion Olga Bicherova, of the USSR and world javelin record holder Antoneta Tudorova, of Bulgaria, were voted the sports personalities of the year in a TASS survey among 24 world and national agencies from Europe, America, Asia and Australia.

All together 44 athletes from 17 countries were named.

World chess champion Anatoly Karpov, of Moscow, has been named the best Soviet sports-



Anatoly Karpov (USSR).



Antoneta Tudorova (Bulgaria).



John McEnroe (USA).



Sebastian Coe (Britain).



Olga Bicherova (USSR).



Uta Cowenhorst (GDR).

ATTENTION, SUBSCRIBERS ABROAD

DEAR READERS,

"MN Information" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and offers in brief the latest information on events in the USSR and in the world, reported by TASS and foreign news agencies. Nothing short of that material, carried in the editions of both "Moscow News" and "MN In-

journell" gives you a full idea of life in the Soviet Union for the week.

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PETRUSYOO IN FINE SHAPE

Natalya Petrusyoo, Olympic champion and world and European top triathlete, notched up 178,544 points to win the nationwide competition in memory of late "Soviet Sport" newspaper Editor-in-Chief Nikolai Kiselev.

On the second day she did brilliantly in the 1,000 m in

litho polo vanishing; and 16 Vladimir Selsukov, Tolyatinsk, swimming.

The journalists have named 73 athletes from 20 sports.

BLOKHIN MAKES TOP SIDE

Soviet international Oleg Blokhin, from Kiev Dynamo, has been selected in a symbolic world soccer elite in a survey conducted by the Hungarian "Népsport" newspaper.

Moscow's Central Army Club, which only recently shared the

lead in the national men's championship, beatng hosts Dynamo, 91-63, in the Tbilisi Palace of Sport.

The side includes Arconada, of Spain; Keltz, of the FRG; Pozzey, of Austria; Passerelle, of Argentina; Junior, of Brazil; Brunner, of the FRG; Nyilas, of Hungary; Zico, of Brazil; Runnenberg, of the FRG; Argentiniens Maradona, and Blokhin.

The other apotamen of the year are: 2. Valeriy Tretyak, Moscow, ice hockey; 3. Rainier Shengelye, Tbilisi, football; 4. Yuri Karolyev, Vladivostok, gymnastics; 5. Yurik Vardanyan, Leninek, weightlifting; 6. Sergei Sakhnichukov, Klinyakov, cycling; 7. Olga Bicherova, Moscow, gymnastics; 8. Vladimir Perenovich, Minak, kayak; 9. Konstantin Vnukov,

swimming; 10. Leonid Starikov, editor-in-chief of "Soviet Sport".

The first world championship

elimination trials will be held on January 9-10, in Eindhoven, Holland, the next, on February 6-7 in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy and third, a week later in West Berlin.

The first semifinal is scheduled for February 20-21, in Stockholm, the second, on March 5-7, in Assen, Holland, with the finale in Inzell, FRG, on March 13-14. No more than three racers from the same country will be admitted to the finale.

The USSR, three world tennis winners, will also enter the team world championship on February 27-28, at Kalinin outside Moscow.

ICE HOCKEY SNAPSHTOHS

In Winnipeg the USSR junior team went down to their Canadian counterparts, 6-7, in their third game at the world championship.

Canada and Czechoslovakia now share the lead with six points each.

The USSR has beaten Sweden, 7-3, in a friendly at Gothenburg. Holland, Khomynov made a hat-trick. Varnakov scored twice and Skvorcov and Kozhevnikov once each for the USSR.

In Frankfurt am Main the USSR second team defeated the FRG, 7-2, while Moscow Spartak downed hosts Davos, 10-4, in the Spengler Cup in Davos.

NORWAY AWAITING GUESTS

The organizing committee of the 1982 world skiing championship in Holmenkollen said 380

sportspersons and 205 officials from 26 countries have sent in their applications, and 1,100 press,

radio and TV correspondents are expected so far to cover the event.

Our next issue No. 2 (310) will come out on January 5, 1982.

According to official estimates, 2,379 people died and over 6,500 were injured in Lebanon last year, during Israeli attacks and military provocations by separatists in southern Lebanon, and acts of terrorism committed by Tel Aviv's sponsored groups.

China's population has topped 1,000 million, the Hong Kong paper reports.

Five persons were killed and another 249 were injured, eight of them seriously, when firecrackers and firearms were used to "celebrate" the arrival of the New Year in Italy.

A council in national security, set up in Bangladesh under the head of government of Abdus Sattar, will examine the use of the army in finance ministry's social and economic development.

The Chicago hearings were

held a year ago, after Vladimir

was abducted from his father and mother, who decided to return home to the Soviet Union.

In violation of American laws and parental rights, the Chicago judge transferred Vladimir to the custody of the Illinois state.

The British Trade Union Congress will launch an anti-smoking campaign this year, this is the decision of the Congress General Council, which attempted to ban advertisements connected with tobacco products.

Friendship is language of peace

The relations between the Soviet and American peoples should be based on friendship and

mutual understanding, not alienation and confrontation.

Many ordinary Americans were worried and baffled by President Reagan's economic discriminatory measures against the Soviet Union, stressed members of a delegation of US cultural figures who were in the USSR on the eve of the New Year. Their programme included trips arranged by the Sputnik International Youth Travel Bureau and the American Friendship Ambassadors travel firm, participation in the "Russian Winter" festival, sightseeing around Moscow, and discussion of cooperative prospects of the two travel organizations.

This is not our first visit to the USSR, and we are glad to say we have made many friends here.

American firm president H. Morris told our correspondent, "The Friendship" travel agency, which helps in the exchange of artistic youth groups from our two countries, has condemned the NATO nuclear decision and the dangerous militaristic policies followed by the Washington administration.

We Want Peace", "Peace by Disarmament", "No to NATO

Alamo-Mississipi-American Neutrality Week", were these

and other slogans of a mass self-war demonstration in West Berlin. Thousands attended the rally and were supported by at least a hundred West German, democratic organizations who condemned the NATO nuclear decision and the dangerous

militaristic policies followed by the Washington administration.

By air - from Moscow

INFORMATION

No. 2 (316), JANUARY 5-8, 1982

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Unreliable partner

Winter holiday time



Over 80,000 Moscow schoolchildren are taking their winter holidays in country camps and rest homes. Another 6,000 have taken off around the country by plane, car, bus and ship. One standard feature of such holidays are New Year inter-halls held for school senior formers. Upholding tradition, nearly 500,000 young Muscovites and visitors to the Soviet capital attended the spectacular pageant held at the Kremlin Palace of Congresses.

COURT RULING REVIEWED

Washington. Vladimir Polovchak, 14, will be reunited with his parents, was the decision of the Illinois court of appeal overturning an earlier ruling by a lower court in Chicago forbidding separation by his parents.

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In violation of American laws

**Round
the Soviet
Union**

THE INITIAL STAGE IS UNDER WAY FOR THE FAIZABAD PUMPING STATION, REACHING 160 METRES ABOVE THE WATER LEVEL OF THE MEROHANA CANAL IN CENTRAL ASIA. The inundation of the station is to irrigate lands in the foothills of the Tien Shan. As soon as construction work has been concluded, the station will irrigate nearly 5,000 hectares. About 45,000 hectares of hilly lands are to be cultivated in the current five-year plan period.

A THERAPEUTIC PREVENTION CLINIC FOR WORKERS AND EMPLOYEES HAS BEEN BUILT IN A PINE FOREST NEAR MINSK. Holiday-makers have at their disposal specialised rooms, mud-baths and a swimming pool. This year Byelorussia has spent about 45,000,000 rubles, nearly 6 million more than in the previous year, for health improvement purposes.

THE INHABITANTS OF HIIUMAA NAMED THE SERIES OF DRAWINGS "THE SEA ROUTES", PAINTED BY THE WELL-KNOWN ESTONIAN ARTIST OLEV SOANS, AS THE BEST ART WORKS OF THE YEAR. His works were displayed at an exhibition that opened on a small island in the coastal waters of the Gulf of Finland. The artist presented the islanders with one of his drawings, a map which reflected in symbolic form the history of navigation in Estonia.

THE BEST LITHUANIAN ONCOLOGISTS CONSULT PEOPLE WHO COME TO VILNIUS FROM EVERYWHERE IN LITHUANIA. They give prophylactic consultations every Saturday at the new clinic of the Scientific Research Institute of Cancer. Unlike elsewhere, people can come here without a recommendation from the primary medical establishment. One may receive advice on how to avoid contact with carcinogenic substances. If a visitor has symptoms of cancer, the doctor may refer him to the diagnostic department for a thorough medical check-up.

FROM the SOVIET PRESS
DO TREES GROW IN MARSH LAND?

Poretsky specialists, scientists and designers speculate a great deal over the future of boggy lands in our country, writes V. Litvinov in the newspaper LESNAYA PROSCHIBLENNOST'. Specialists often advise that these areas should be eliminated as soon as possible, covering the occupied area with a network of canals. While others advocate for the reduction of the volume of land reclamation, demanding that part of the boggy lands should be left. This, they argue, is to preserve berry-beds helping the number of animals and birds from diminishing. They add, however, that nothing will grow on such soils.

In an attempt to find the truth, the author of this article travelled to Karelia to see the marshes that had been drained long ago. Here he was shown good crops and fine forests, populated by people and revived trees, which formerly did not develop because of excessive moistening. Our reclaimed areas a network of forests yields 200-300 cubic metres of timber. This is very rare for the North. There are also other facts proving that trees can flourish on drained lands.

When digging canals in such places one often comes across stumps, roots, large trees, and the traces of ancient vegetation. This means that everything previously died as a result of swampiness. But now the reduction of soil moisture will make it possible to restore the natural balance. There are vast marshy forests in Karelia, in fact more than 5 million hectares. These forests 37 per cent of total forest resources. Such forest areas within these regions help considerably increase the raw timber resources in Karelia.

NOVEL CROWNS MODERN LITERATURE

The state of the novel is said to determine the state of literature as a whole, since only novels are capable

LIFE-LIKE ANCESTORS RECREATED

The plastic reconstruction laboratory of the Institute of Ethnography at the USSR Academy of Sciences has been functioning in Moscow for more than 30 years. It was founded by the well-known Soviet sculptor anthropologist Mikhail Gerashchenko who was the first to perfect the process of executing sculptures imagined through the skull and skeleton shop. With his pupils he created the sculptural portraits of people who lived in different periods of human history and also helped criminologists.

Now the laboratory is headed by his pupil Galina Lebedinskaya, Candidate of Science (Sociology). The photo depicts her near the sculptural portrait taken from a skull found in the burial mound in the Ukraine dating from the Stone Age.

In 30 years of its existence the laboratory has made 200 reconstructions, each involving painstaking work. Their catalog goes to human muscles and compiled on the basis of studying contemporary people. Therefore, in many respects they do not correspond to the physical image of our past ancestors. Scientists of this laboratory have made numerous measurements and studied a great deal of literature concerning anatomy. Today, thanks to these works, we know how Thraus (Tamerlane), Ulugh Beg, Rudaki, Yaroslav the Wise, Ivan the Terrible, Admiral



Ushakov and many other great and ordinary people of various epochs, countries and nationalities looked in appearance. The amazing thing is that they were not created as the result of the artist's imagination but are documents of reality.

A HUGE FURNACE IN THE NORTH

Work has begun on assembly air heaters for the fifth furnace of the Cherepovets metallurgical plant, in the north of this country. Unlike elsewhere, people can come here without a recommendation from the primary medical establishment. One may receive advice on how to avoid contact with carcinogenic substances. If a visitor has symptoms of cancer, the doctor may refer him to the diagnostic department for a thorough medical check-up.

With the experience of the large furnaces in Krivoy Rog

and Lipetsk behind them, the designers made several adjustments. The round casting bell will enlarge the working space near the furnace and allow for the installation of the equipment near each of the four notches, to make the work easier. Trains are no longer needed to remove slag as the latter will be processed into

construction material at two granulation plants nearby.

Closed water recycling will eliminate harmful discharges and efficient dust traps will protect against air pollution.

The first phase of the furnace to be commissioned within the present five-year plan period (1981-1985) will be able to produce 4,500 thousand tonnes of cast iron annually.

This superheavyweight ingot

is not destined for working purposes as activists plan to cut it and test the metal quality. If the standards are met, the plant will begin the mass production of such ingots.

The author of the novel and its capabilities to reflect the truth of the times have probably changed so that it becomes the most important trend in literature.

CLUBS FOR AMATEUR FICTION WRITERS

In the USSR there are many creative clubs whose members share the same passions: mimimists, philatelists, tourists, bibliophiles, book photo designers, etc., writes the magazine TEKHNIKA-MOLODOZY.

An great scientist I. Mechnikov, bearing in mind the inexhaustible nature of internal reserves of an organism, wrote: "Doubt of an age of less than 150 is an unnatural death". Our organism has been created by Nature very reliably, with a large margin of safety and is designed for efficient and uninterrupted functioning for 150 years and more.

He continued that evolution built in the human organism to and required from it active physical work. A change in such a life-style is fraught with sad consequences. Medical workers are alarmed of the increasing rate of cardiovascular and nervous diseases. This results from overloading the nervous system and in the same time reducing movements. Intellectual workers should remember this particularly well. It is necessary that each person is aware of this situation as the age of individual lies in the age of his vessels.

Today dozens of such clubs are functioning in the Soviet Union. They are mainly established on educational institutions of libraries and sometimes attached to creative organisations and newspapers for youth readers. There are purely book-lovers' clubs and also the more creative ones whose members are chiefly people who write or want to write science fiction sto-

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PHYSICAL EXERCISE EQUALS LONG LIFE

L. Sukharevsky, D.Sc. (Medicine), comments upon health and longevity in the newspaper SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Theatre, Cinema and TV Stars

ALEXANDER MIKHAILOV



mystery of art, Mikhalov, like 18, dramatically changed his life and became an actor...

Now with Moscow's Yermolova Theatre, Mikhalov appears in the plays, "I Am a Man", "Balladino Ask for Pia", rehearses new parts and gets constantly invited by film studios up and down the land.

Why is there such a demand for him by directors?

His most striking trait is the ability to project the image of the "real man"; he can be urbane, kind and tender, at the same time strong, brave, passionate and resolute. In him, his temperament, techniques (incidentally, Mikhalov never lets old men replace him in risky episodes), plus boundless appeal make up his popularity. Mikhalov is an expert at playing tragic roles, as seen during his performance of the Russian chess doyen, Alexander Alekhine in the film "Russia's White Snow". Nor is it ever beyond his talent to take part in sci-fi pictures and adventure films. The main thing for him is the material must be exciting, and if it is, he has no difficulty presenting the role.

In the recently completed film version of the satirical comedy "Easy Money" by the great Russian playwright Alexander Ostrovsky, Mikhalov plays the successful businesman Savvo Vasil'ev—he represents his first classic part, as normally he plays the characters from our times and from the future.

Yelena UVAROVA
Photo by Valery Plotnikov

'GOLDEN BOOK-81'

The album "English Art in the Hermitage", released by the Aurora Publishers of Leningrad, was acknowledged as the international "Golden Book-81".

This Soviet publication was unanimously awarded the gold medal and won the favour of the jury at this major creative competition, which took place in Italy. Colourful books from the world's leading publishing firms were entered into the contest. The best book of the year was

designed by Irina Ptakova. She is a graduate from the Moscow Printing Institute and has been working for 12 years in the largest Soviet publishing house specializing in the publication of various materials on art. Only recently Irina illustrated such popular albums as "Theatrical Portraits", "Artist Bilibin", "Medals and Coins of the Peter the Great's Time", "The Treasures of the Russian Museum" and many others.

FESTIVAL IN THE PUSHKIN MUSEUM

The Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts in Moscow is holding the festival "December Evening Parties".

"In 1982 we celebrate 70 years of our museum," says the museum's curator Irina Antonova. "We have decided to mark it with a festival which would symbolize the profound connection between the art treasury and Russian culture."

An exhibition, "Russian Painters and Music", has been mounted in the "White Hall" (meant to coincide with the "December Evening Parties"). Visitors viewing the paintings and graphic sheets of the 19th and early 20th centuries can hear music by Russian composers of

PIECHA'S

25 YEARS ON STAGE

Edyta Piecha compiled her recent programmes on the basis of requests from her audiences. The performances of the popular singer on the stage of the Oktyabrsky grand concert hall in Leningrad was devoted to the 25th anniversary of her career as a variety artist.

Among Edyta Piecha's most popular songs are "A City of Childhood", "The Wreath of the Danube", and "Be as I Would Like You to Be". Among her songs there is one "Red Bus"—the first song recorded by the artiste, a young student of Leningrad University. The recording companies of many countries have produced dozens of records from her songs, and Melodika has released one of her latest recordings, a new album entitled "Not a Single Day Without a Song".

Edyta Piecha has travelled widely throughout the Soviet Union from the Baltic Sea to the Pacific and has visited 19 foreign countries.

"I like my audiences and give them everything what my heart can yield", says the singer.

WHAT'S ON!

January 5-8

THEATRES

Kromlo Palace of Congresses (Kremly), 5 — Gala concert of the "Russian Winter" festival. 8 — Concert by Alexandrov Soviet Army Song and Dance Ensemble. Bolshoi Theatre performances: 6 — Adam, "Giselle" (ballet). 8 — Bilel, "Carmen" (opera).

Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq.), 5 — Clink, "Ivan Susanin" (opera); 6 — Corelli, Torelli, Romau, "These Fascinating Sounds" (ballet); 7 — Mussorgsky, "Khovanshchina" (opera); 8 — Bilel, "Carmen" (opera).

Stasovskiy and Nambrovskiy-Danchevko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St.), 5 (met) — Morozov, "Doctor Doolittle" (ballet); 5 (javel) — Mozart, "La finta gianduia" (opera); 6 — Gershwin, "Porgy and Bess" (opera); 7 — Adam, Delibes, "Corsaire" (ballet); 8 — Double-bill: Tchaikovsky, "Francesca da Rimini"; Khachaturian, "Gayane-Suite" (ballet).

Olimpiyskiy Sports Complex (Prospekt Mira), 5, 8 — Gorky-Fantasy-82", a fairy-tale-themed programme for young people featuring a fairy-tale village, rock pop groups, Russian folk and horse races.

Palace of Sport, Lulin Stadium (Luzhniki), 5, 6, 7, 8 — A New Year's康健體育場

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